Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ARA-10 EA-10 EUR-12 NEA-10 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 HA-05 /119 W -------000539 232234Z /21

R 231515Z FEB 78 FM AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5198 INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON AMEMBASSY VALLETTA USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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DEPT PASS OAU CAPITALS

E.O. 11652: N/A TAGS: PORG, OAU

SUBJECT: OAU CONFERENCE AT THIRD DAY

- 1. ACCORDING TO VARIOUS DELEGATION SOURCES, FORMAL ACTIVITY IN CONFERENCE HAS BEEN MINIMAL SINCE OPENING SESSION.

 MEETINGS FEB 21 AND 22 STARTED LATE AND FINISHED EARLY DUE TO SOCIAL FUNCTIONS AND OTHER EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES. ATTENDANCE BY HEADS OF DELEGATIONS SOMEWHAT LIMITED DUE TO PREOCCUPATION WITH CORRIDOR CONSULTATIONS WITH COLLEAGUES.
- 2. PRINCIPAL CONCERN OF SECRETARY GENERAL ETEKI AND MODERATE MEMBERS SUCH AS NIGERIA HAS BEEN TO AVOID DISCUSSION OF CONTROVERSIAL OR DIVISIVE ITEMS. THUS FAR INSCRIPTION OF HORN, WESTERN SAHARA, AND RHODESIA AS AGENDA ITEMS HAS BEEN SUCCESSFULLY RESISTED BUT SECRETARIAT OFFICIALS REMAIN CONCERNED PRESSURES FOR OPEN DISCUSSION WILL CONTINUE. REQUESTS FOR PERMISSION TO ADDRESS MEETING BY REPRESENTATIVES OF INTERNAL ZIMBABWE GROUPS (MUZOREWA LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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AND SITHOLE) AND POLISARIO REPS HAVE ALSO THUS FAR BEEN CONTAINED.

3. FEB 23 SESSION SOMEWHAT OVERSHADOWED BY QADHAFI'S SUMMIT MEETING IN SOUTHERN LIBYA WHERE BULK OF PRESS CORPS IS IN ATTENDANCE. OBSERVERS EXPECT CONFERENCE TO MOVE AHEAD SOMEWHAT MORE BRISKLY FEB 24 AND 25 SINCE

HEADS OF DELEGATIONS ARE SCHEDULED TO BEGIN EXODUS THEREAFTER.

CARLE

NOTE BY OC/T: NOT PASSED OAU CAPITALS.

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